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*Allen - Scott Report*

# Some Lobbyists Are Exposed But Fulbright Ignores JFK's Advice

By ROBERT S. ALLEN and PAUL SCOTT

Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman J. William Fulbright is investigating a previous column (p. 16) in his continuing investigation of lobbyists for foreign interests.

While conspicuously exposing some, the Arkansas Democrat is carefully bypassing others now holding high office in the Kennedy Administration.

Foremost among them is Undersecretary George Ball, Number two official in the State Department.

Records on file in the Justice Department show that between 1950 and 1958, Ball received hundreds of thousands of dollars as registered lobbyist for Cuban and Venezuelan organizations then controlled by very dictators — Fulgencio Batista of Cuba and Perez Jimenez of Venezuela.

Jimenez currently is in federal custody in a Miami jail awaiting a deportation order.

Despite this indisputable documentary evidence, Fulbright has yet to ask Ball a single question about his lobbying operations while indirectly in the pay of dictators Batista and Jimenez.

Fulbright also has yet to interrogate other high-placed New Frontiermen who have Justice Department records as registered foreign lobbyists.

**THE SOLITARIO** ignoring of Ball's lobbying activities is particularly intriguing in view of the fact that he was the first witness summoned by Fulbright; only a few days ago Fulbright opened his probe with Ball.

The match was set up at last by; and it was the last word about Ball in 1958. From the record of this hearing, no one would ever know that for years the Undersecretary of State had been a major paid foreign lobbyist.



Ball so openly acknowledged State Department was taking a "hands off" attitude to the lobbying problem although he confirmed it was partly up to the Justice Department to enforce law regarding these. Fulbright boldly advised Ball: "You should share this responsibility."

To that Ball argued, "We have not found that the activities of foreign agents present any serious problems in foreign policy formulation. The State Department and its personnel do not constitute the major direct target for these activities."

Ball and agree with Fulbright that it is "not very flattering to the United States for foreign governments to conclude that being a lobbyist is the only way to get things done in Washington."

There was no mention by Fulbright or Ball of the latter's extensive lobbying operations to the exactly that.

**RECORDS IN THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT** — to which Fulbright has conspicuously failed to reveal that between 1950 and 1958 Ball collected more than \$438,000 as the registered lobbyist for Cuban and Venezuelan organizations.

During those years are the two countries under the iron-fisted rule of Batista and Jimenez. Indirectly, Ball was in their pay.

According to the Justice Department's transaction files — based on data submitted by Ball himself — he received no less than \$210,000 from the Cuban Sugar Council — making him the all-time highest-paid foreign sugar lobbyist.

From November 1950 to August 1952, Ball's last firm got more than \$167,000 from the Venezuelan Chamber of Commerce.

While Fulbright is ignoring Ball's foreign lobbying, it was once set up during a Senate committee. This was soon after Senator (now) George C. Mahon, D-Tex., who was then chairman, directed a number of hind-hunting probes, ranging from former vice James Hoffa to the selected D.A.'s of Texas.